

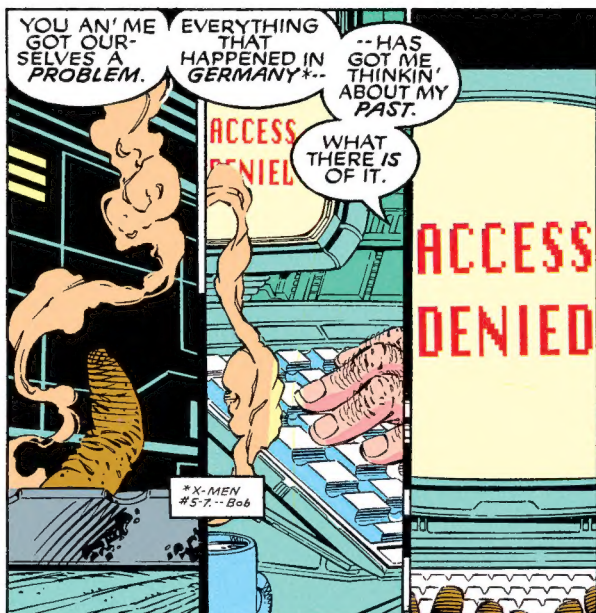
GAMBIT vs. BISHOP!

NUFF SAID!

\$1.25 US
\$1.50 CAN
8
MAY
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COMICS
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SPECIAL
APPEARANCE
BY
**GHOST
RIDER!**



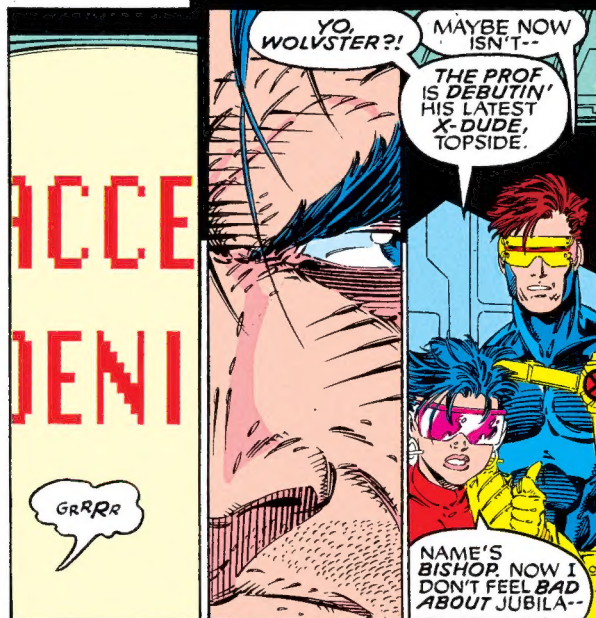
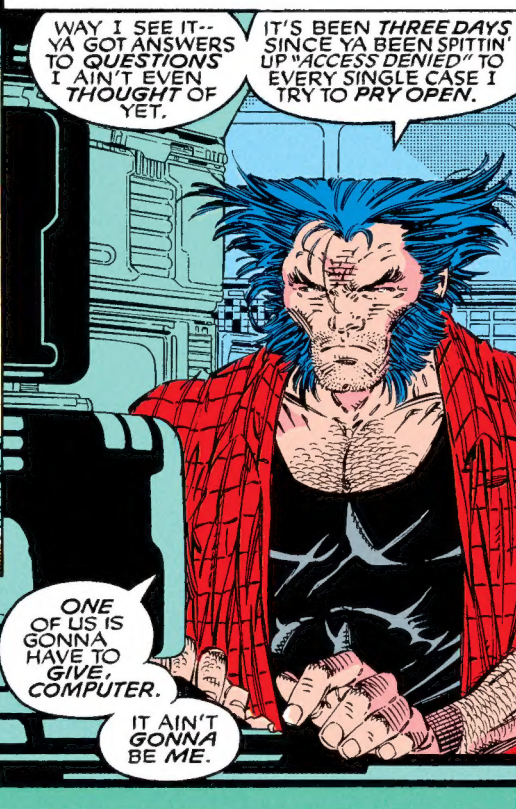
JIM LEE SCOTT
PLOT & LOBDELL
PENCILS SCRIPT

LEE & JOE
THIBERT ROSAS
FINISHES COLORS

TOM
ORZECZOWSKI
LETTERS

BOB
HARRAS
EDITOR

TOM
DeFALCO
EDITOR IN CHIEF



GRAYMALKIN LANE,
SALEM CENTER,
NEW YORK.

CHARLES XAVIER'S SCHOOL
FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS.

ORIENTATION
CLASS IS IN
SESSION.

THOUGH I AM STILL NOT
CONVINCED YOUR PLACE-
MENT AMONG US IS THE MOST
PRUDENT OPTION*--

--IT IS MY
RESPONSIBILITY, AS
GOLD LEADER, TO
WELCOME YOU TO
THE X-MEN.

ORORO-- BISHOP
IS FROM NEARLY A
HUNDRED YEARS
IN THE FUTURE.

PERHAPS
THIS TOUR OF
OUR FACILITIES
WOULD GO
SMOOTHER--

--IF YOU'D
REFRAIN FROM
EDITORIALIZING
IN REGARDS TO
HIS QUALIFI-
CATIONS.

CAUTION IS
A QUALITY TO
BE COMMENDED
IN A LEADER,
PROFESSOR.

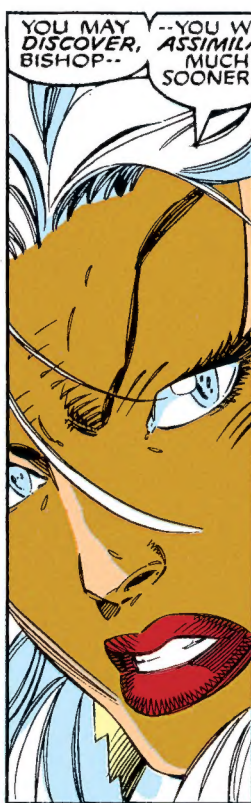
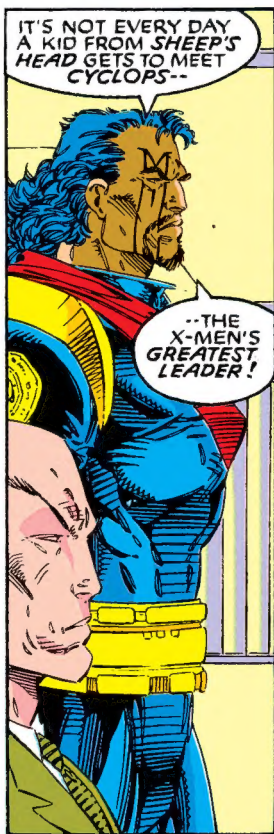
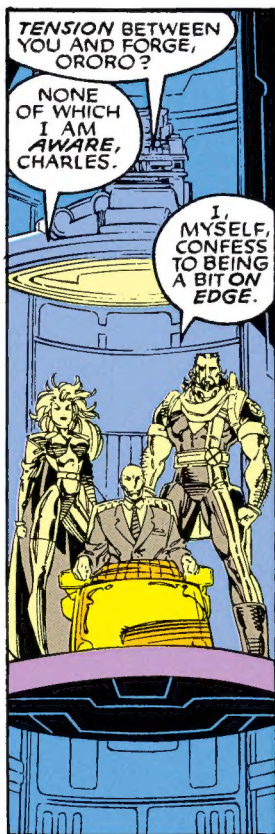
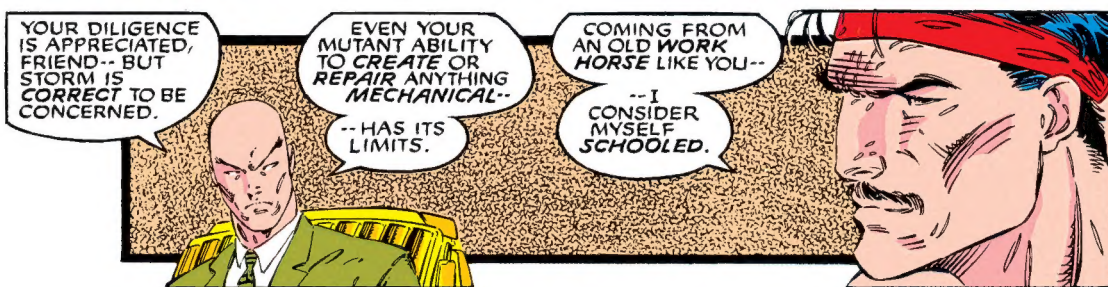
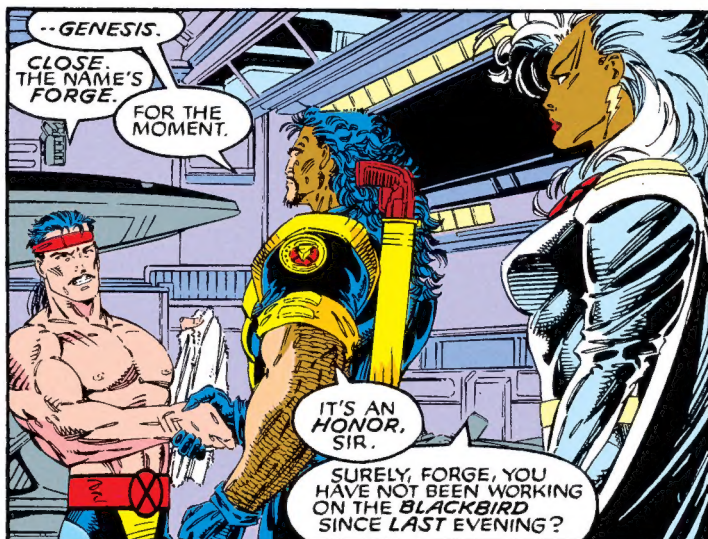
IN TRUTH,
I'D EXPECT
NOTHING
LESS
FROM THE
LEGENDARY
STORM.

"TOOTH AND CLAW"

CAUTIOUS,
huh?

YOU'LL
GET NO
ARGUMENT
FROM ME.

BISHOP,
I'D LIKE
YOU TO
MEET--







IT'S TRES GOUCHE TO GO SHOUTING A BODY'S NAME--

--WIT'OUT DAT BODY'S PERMISSION.

THIS EXPLAINS THE WITNESS' RELUCTANCE TO SHARE HIS RECOLLECTIONS REGARDING GAMBIT*...

...BECAUSE THEY ARE ONE AND THE SAME!

CALM DOWN, MAN--YOU'RE NOT MAKING ANY SENSE.

NOT TO ME, LEAST WAYS...

#UNCANNY
#267-- Bob



THE WITNESS WAS THE LAST PERSON TO SEE THE X-MEN ALIVE--

-- BEFORE THEY WERE BETRAYED BY ONE OF THEIR OWN!



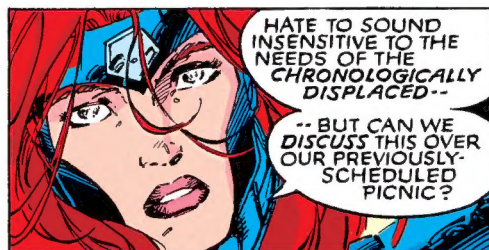
SIR, I COMMAND YOU TO PSI-SCAN GAMBIT'S THOUGHTS IN ORDER TO DEFINE HIS LOYALTIES!

THAT IS UN-NECESSARY.

NOT TO MENTION INSULTIN'!

I AM NOT IN THE HABIT OF INVADING THE MINDS OF MY STUDENTS, BISHOP.

GAMBIT HAS DEMONSTRATED HIS UNSWERVING DEDICATION TO THE X-MEN ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION.



HATE TO SOUND INSENSITIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE CHRONOLOGICALLY DISPLACED--

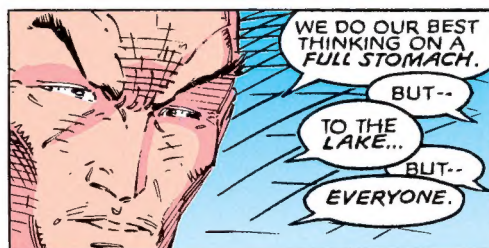
-- BUT CAN WE DISCUSS THIS OVER OUR PREVIOUSLY-SCHEDULED PICNIC?



PICNIC?!

I INFORM YOU OF YOUR IMPENDING DEATHS AT THE HANDS OF A TRAITOR--

--AND YOU SUGGEST... A PICNIC?!



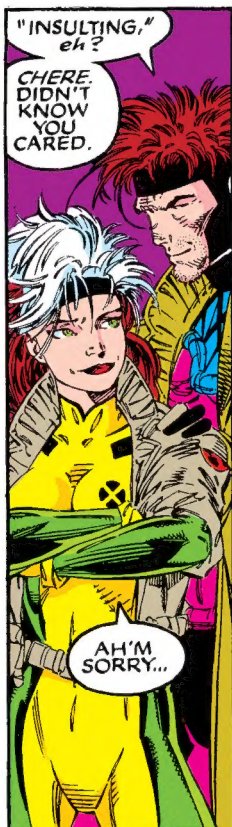
WE DO OUR BEST THINKING ON A FULL STOMACH.

BUT--

TO THE LAKE...

BUT--

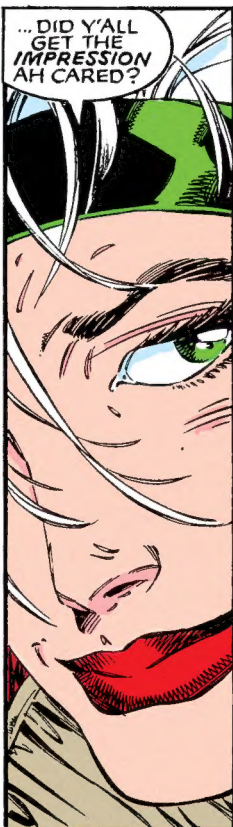
EVERYONE.



"INSULTING,"
eh?

CHERE,
DIDN'T
KNOW
YOU
CARED.

AH'M
SORRY...



... DID Y'ALL
GET THE
IMPRESSION
AH CARED?



IT IS OBVIOUS NOBODY IS
TAKING ME SERIOUSLY.

HE HAS
FOUGHT AT
OUR SIDE FOR
SEVERAL
MONTHS.

YOU HAVE
BEEN IN THE
MANSION
FOR ONE
HOUR.

TELL ME,
COMMANDER--
WHO WOULD
YOU TRUST?



BELOW... "BARRINGTON"
IS THE BEST YA
CAN OFFER?

WHAT'S A
BARRINGTON?

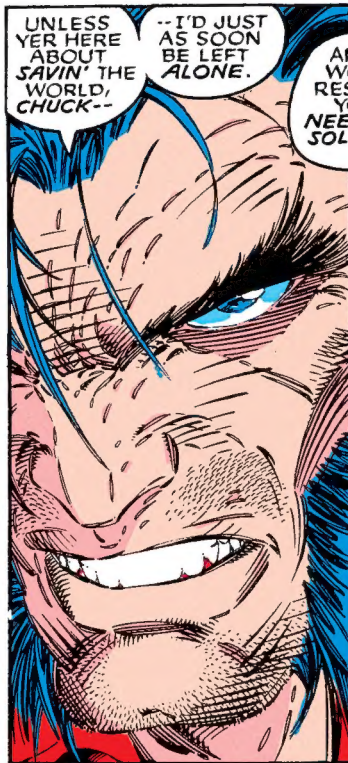
I MEAN,
IS IT A
PERSON...

...A
PLACE?



AND WHAT'S
IT GOT TO DO
WITH VERS
TRULY?

Sniff
/ \



UNLESS
YER HERE
ABOUT
SAVIN' THE
WORLD,
CHUCK--

--I'D JUST
AS SOON
BE LEFT
ALONE.

AND I WOULD
RESPECT
YOUR
NEED FOR
SOLITUDE--

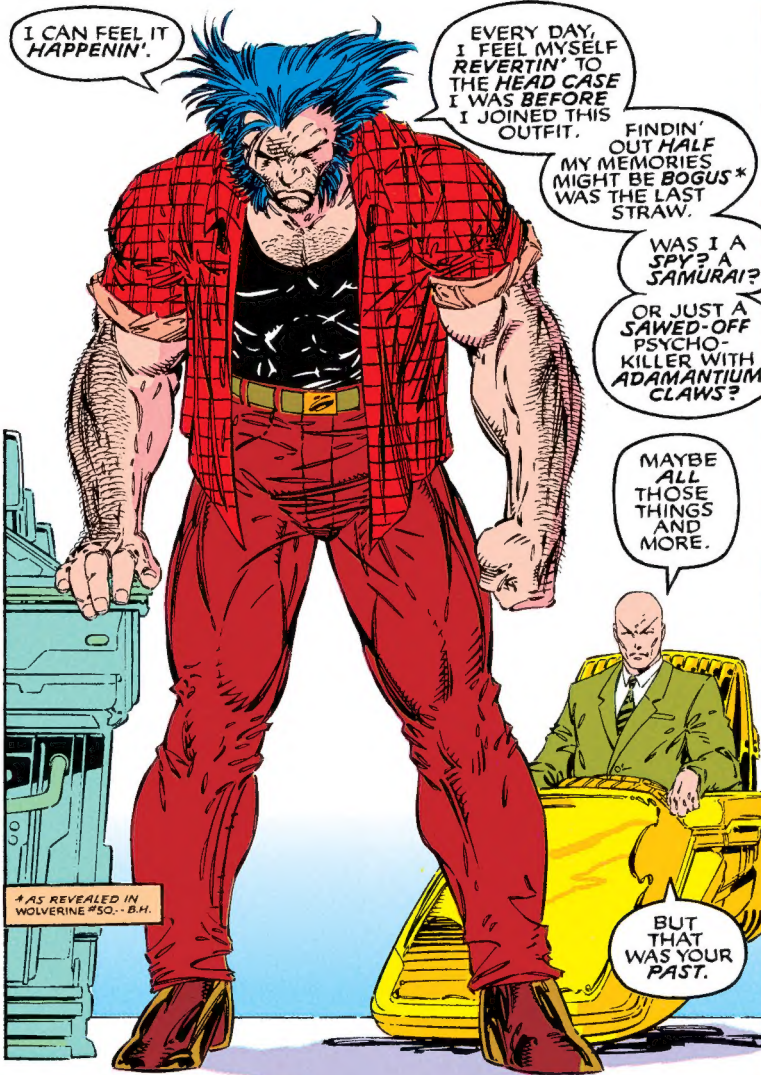
--IF I
THOUGHT,
FOR EVEN
A MOMENT,
IT WAS
GENUINE.

WOLV--

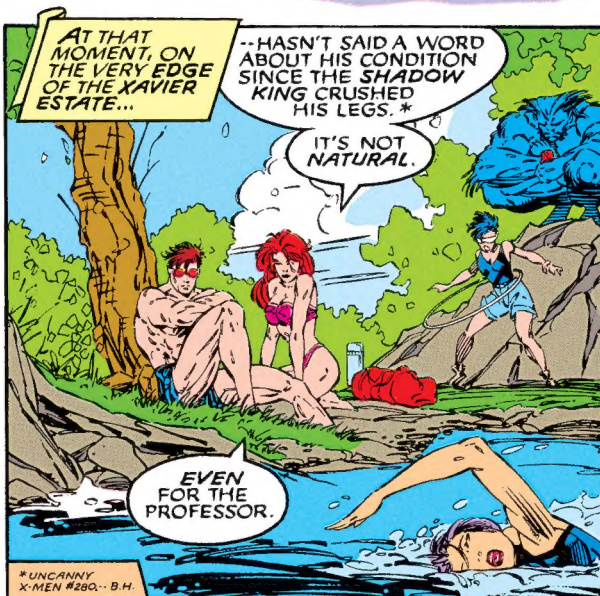
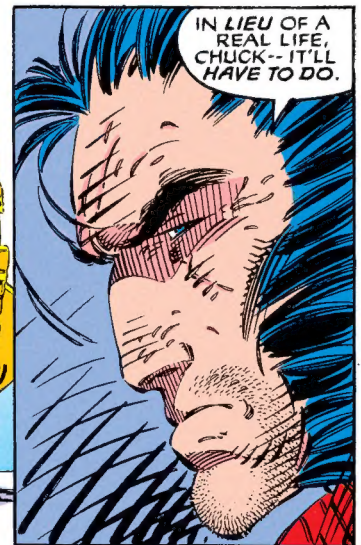
LOGAN...
IT DOESN'T
TAKE AN
EMPATHY TO
KNOW
WHAT YOU
NEED...



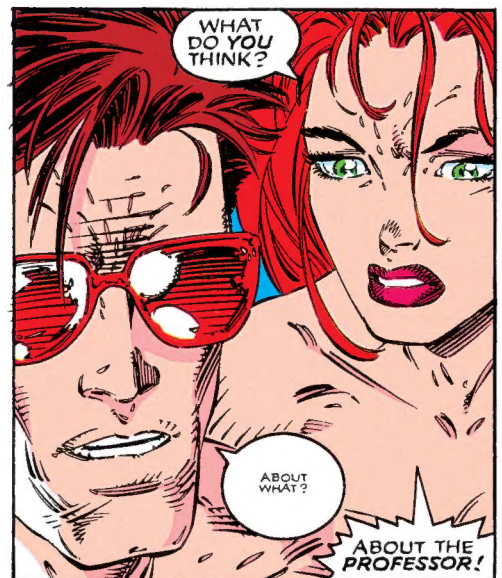
...IS A
FRIEND.

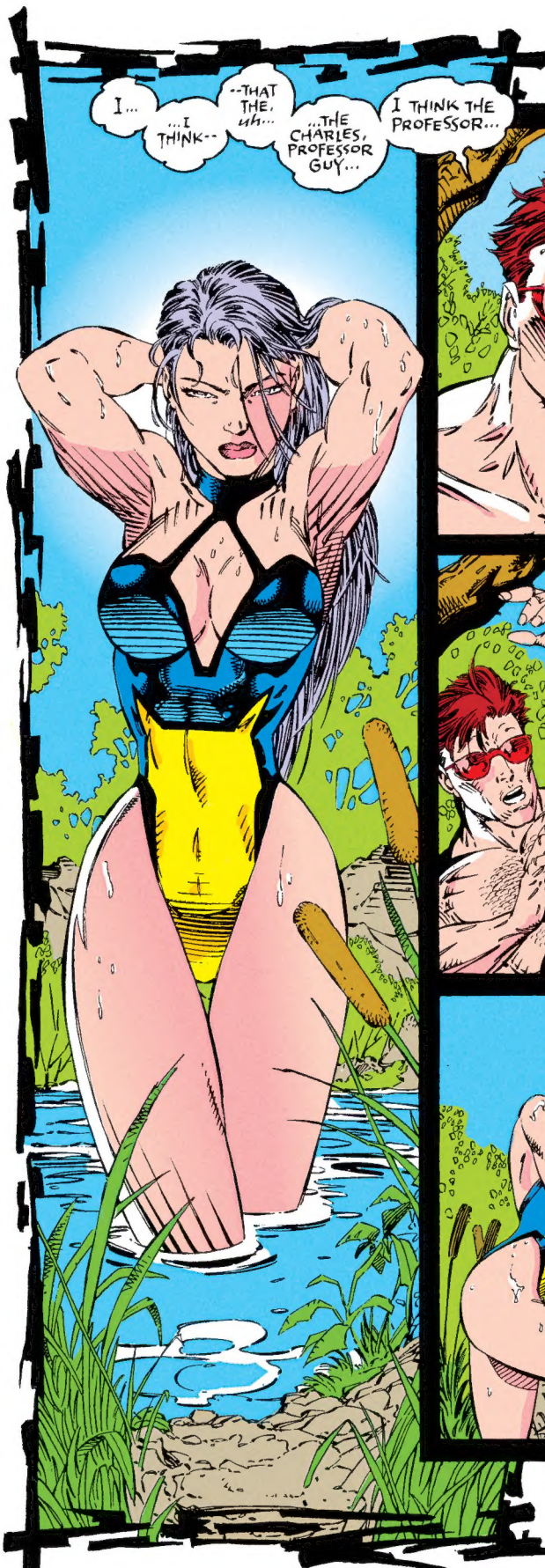


* AS REVEALED IN WOLVERINE #50. - B.H.

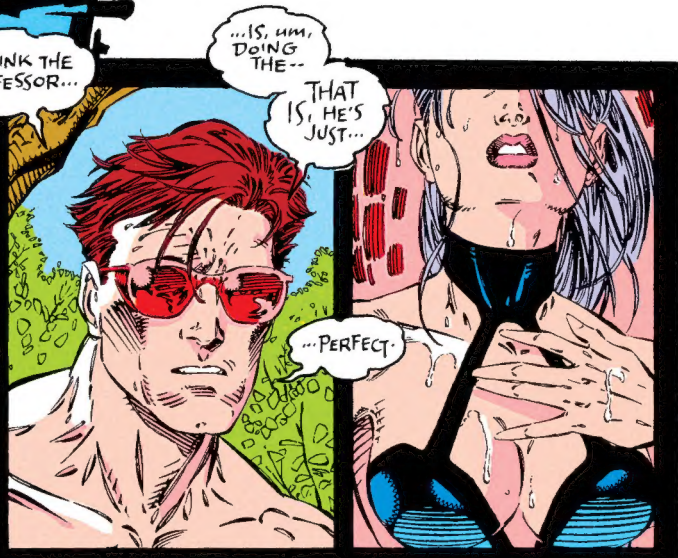


* UNCANNY X-MEN #280. - B.H.

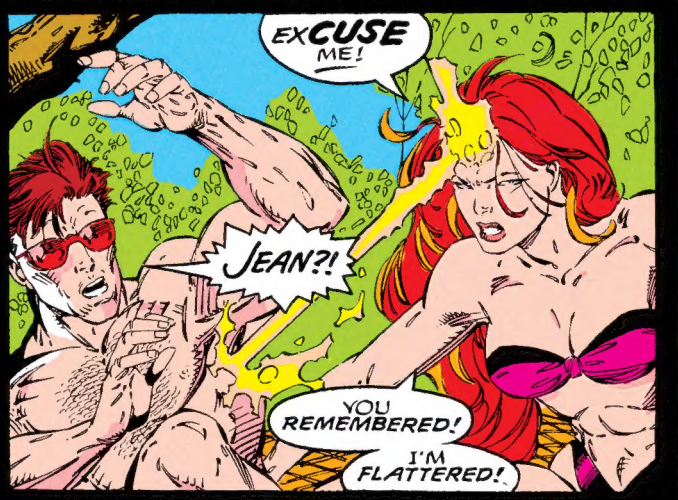




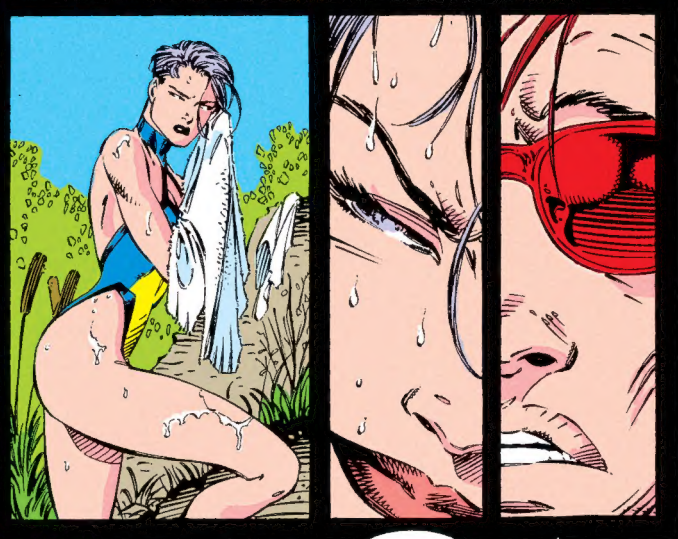
I...
...I THINK...
--THAT THE, uh...
THE CHARLES, PROFESSOR GUY...
I THINK THE PROFESSOR...



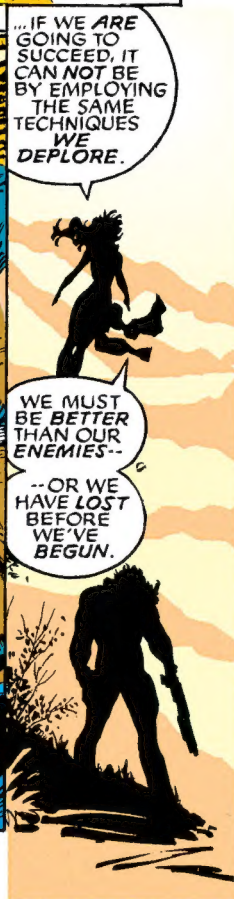
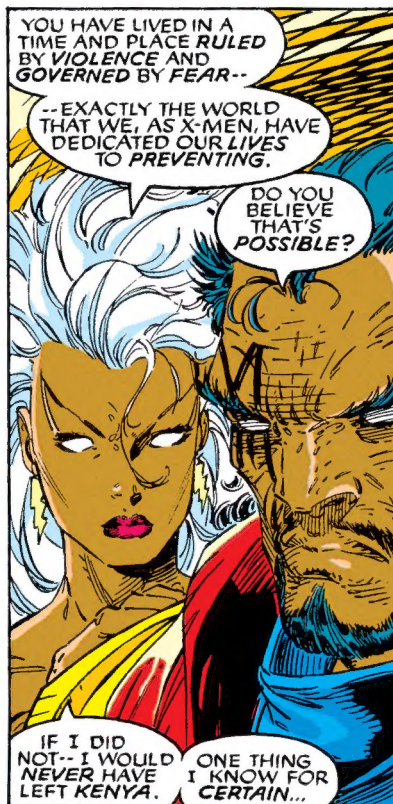
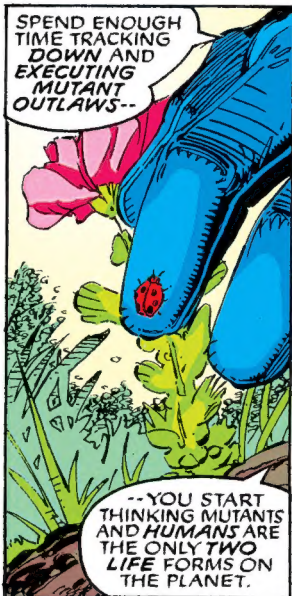
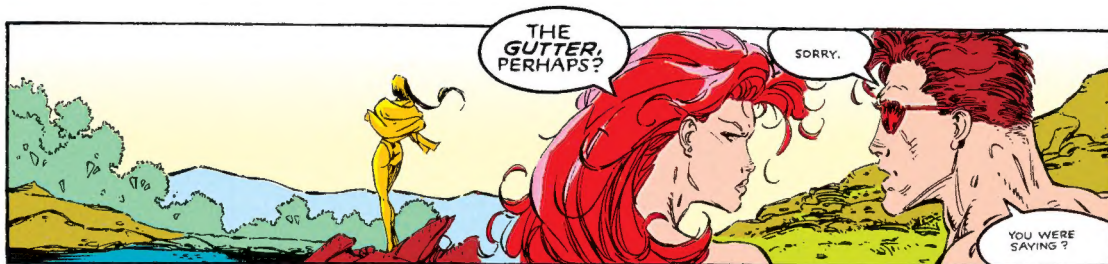
...IS, UM, DOING THE--
THAT IS, HE'S JUST...
...PERFECT...

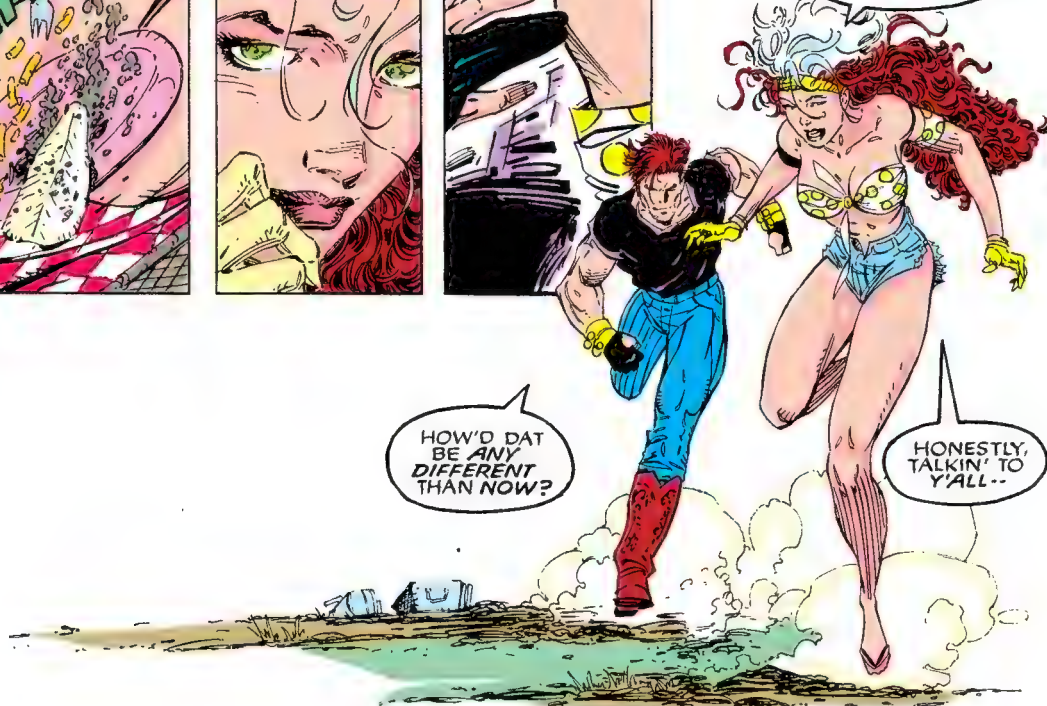
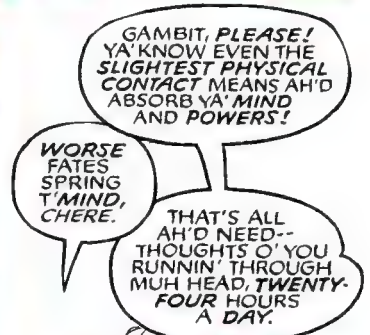
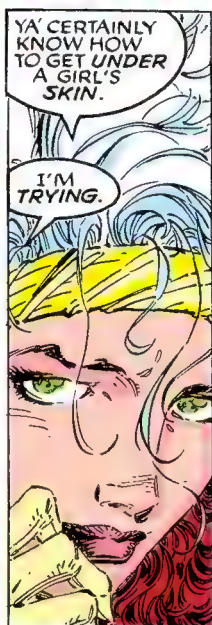
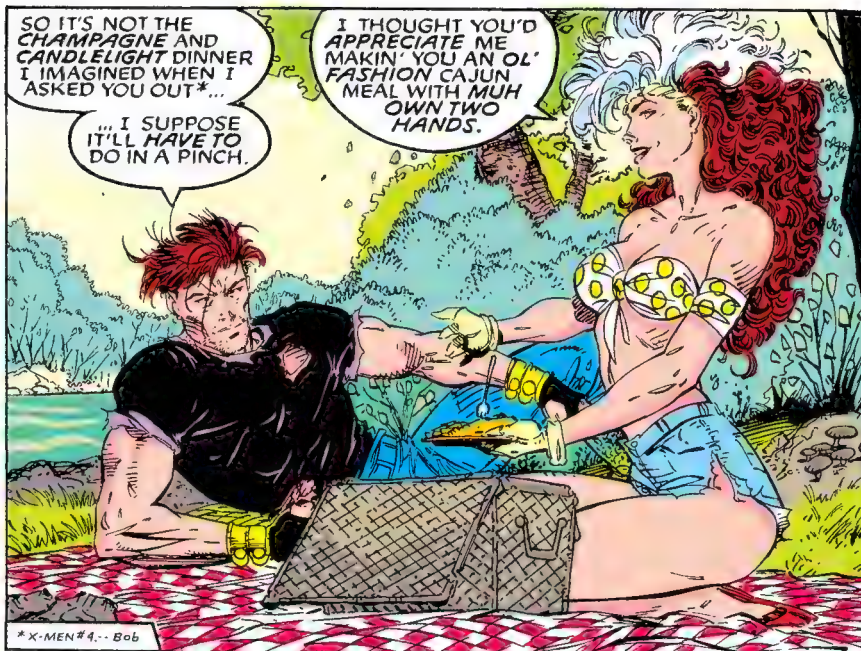


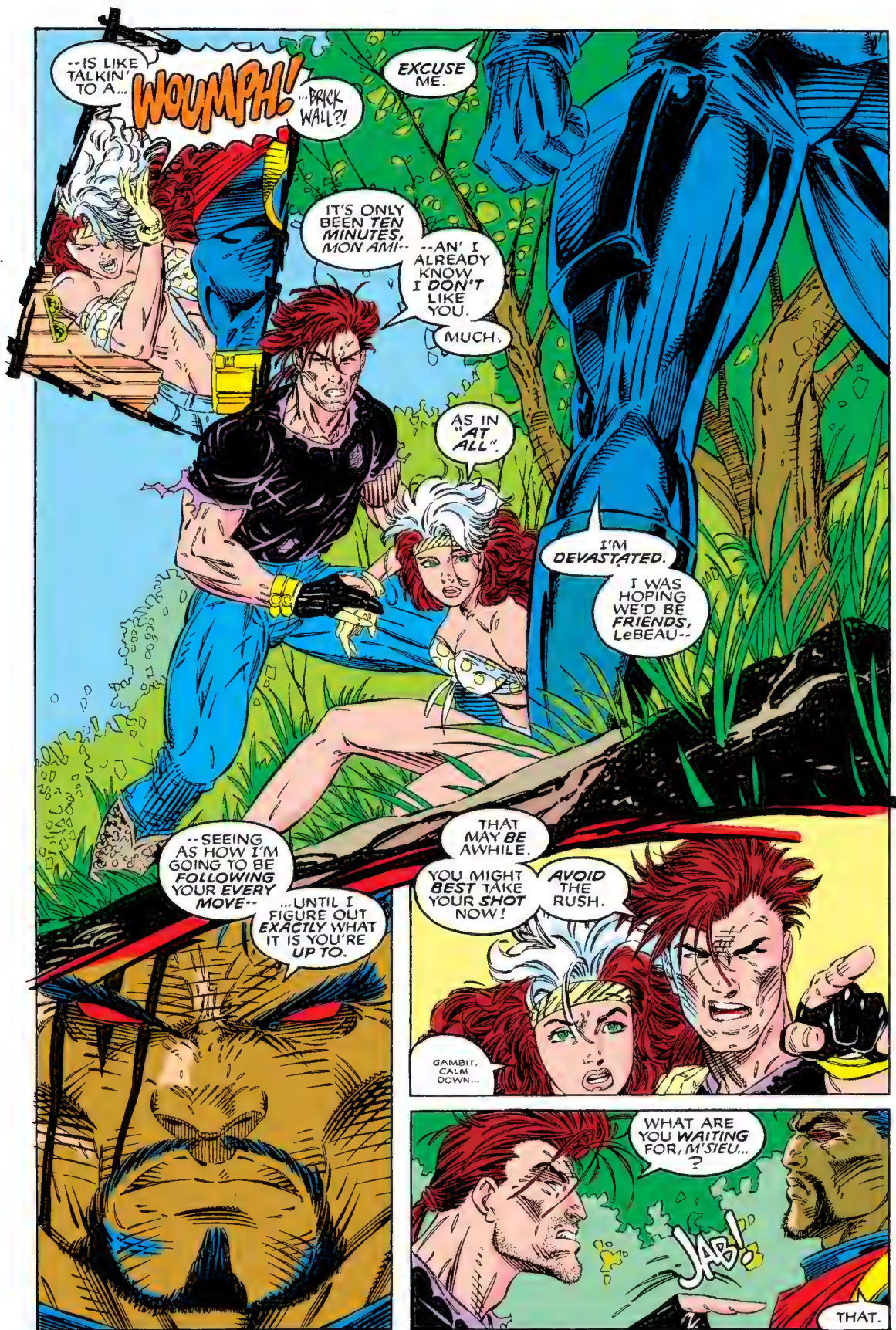
EXCUSE ME!
JEAN?!
YOU REMEMBERED!
I'M FLATTERED!



SORRY. MY MIND MUST HAVE...
...UM, BEEN ELSE-WHERE.







--IS LIKE
TALKIN'
TO A...

WOUMPH!

...BACK
WALL?!

EXCUSE
ME.

IT'S ONLY
BEEN TEN
MINUTES,
MON AMI--

--AN' I
ALREADY
KNOW
I DON'T
LIKE
YOU.

MUCH.

AS IN
"AT
ALL".

I'M
DEVASTATED.

I WAS
HOPING
WE'D BE
FRIENDS,
LEBEAU--

-- SEEING
AS HOW I'M
GOING TO BE
FOLLOWING
YOUR EVERY
MOVE--

...UNTIL I
FIGURE OUT
EXACTLY WHAT
IT IS YOU'RE
UP TO.

THAT
MAY BE
AWHILE.

YOU MIGHT
BEST TAKE
YOUR SHOT
NOW!

AVOID
THE
RUSH.

GAMBIT,
CALM
DOWN...

WHAT ARE
YOU WAITING
FOR, M'SIEU...
?

JAB!

THAT.



I KNOW YOU NOT AS THE MAN YOU CLAIM TO BE, LeBEAU--

-- BUT RATHER AS THE MONSTER YOU WILL ONE DAY BECOME!

SKID KOW!

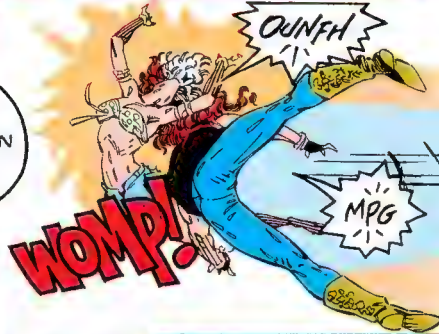
FOR I WAS RAISED-- BY YOU-- IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE GREAT BETRAYAL!

WHILE I MIGHT NOT KNOW EXACTLY HOW IT CAME ABOUT--



-- REST ASSURED, I WILL DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO SEE THAT IT DOES NOT!

AS YOU'LL DISCOVER, "GAMBIT"--

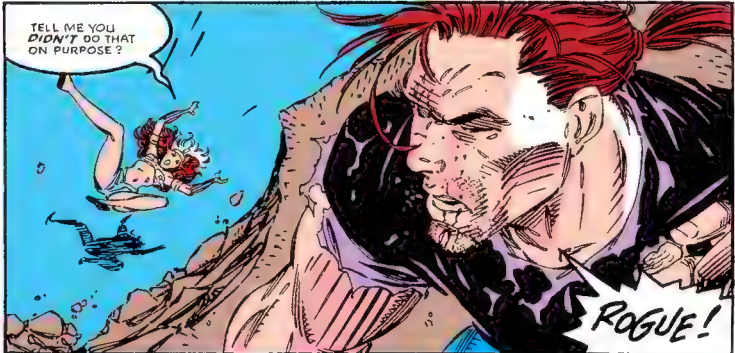


QUINFH

MPG

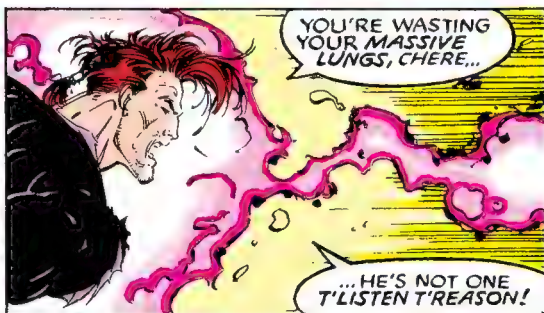
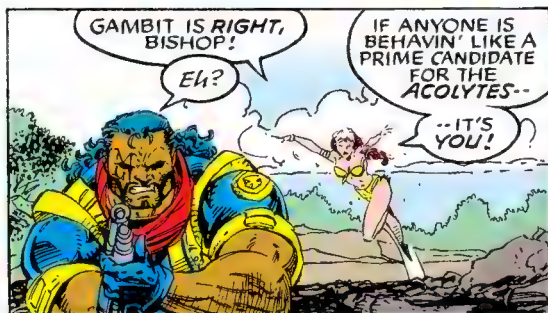
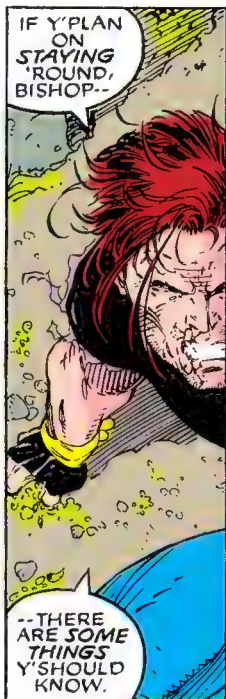
-- THE POWER I CAN BRING TO BEAR...

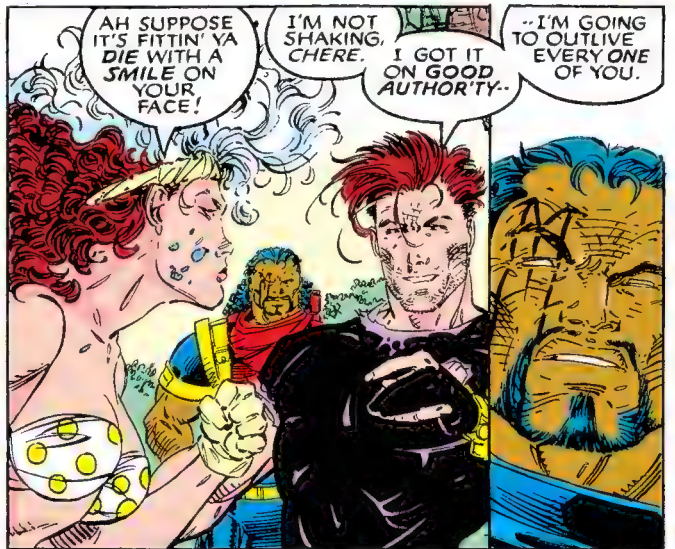
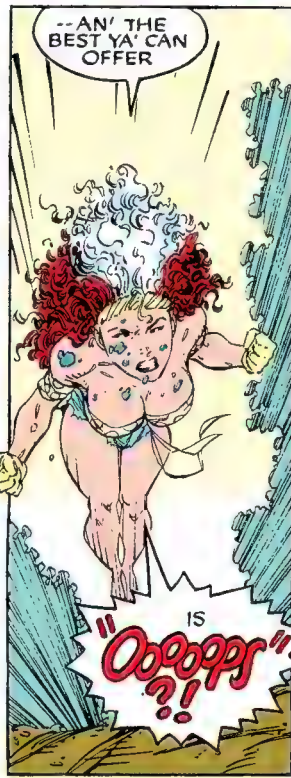
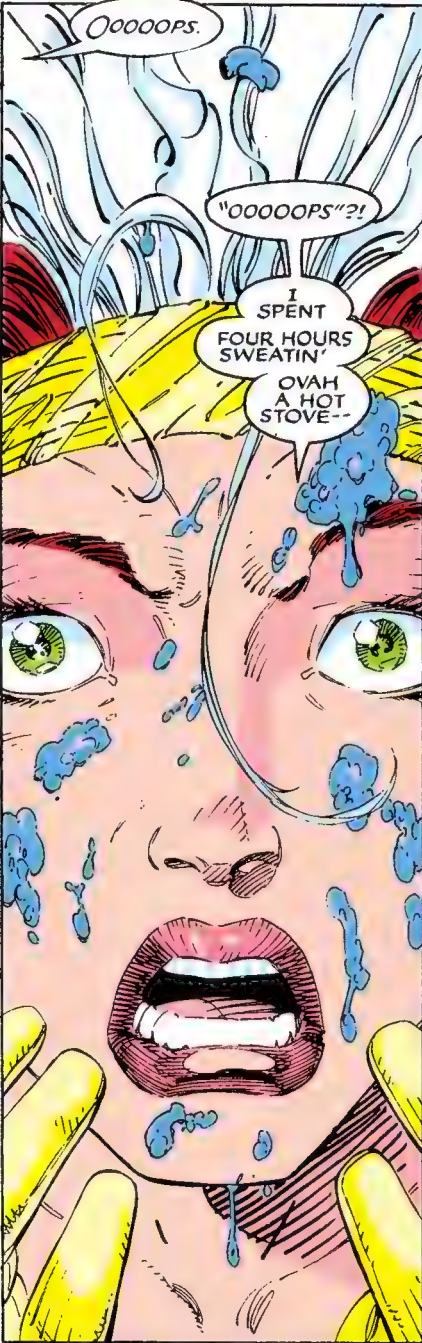
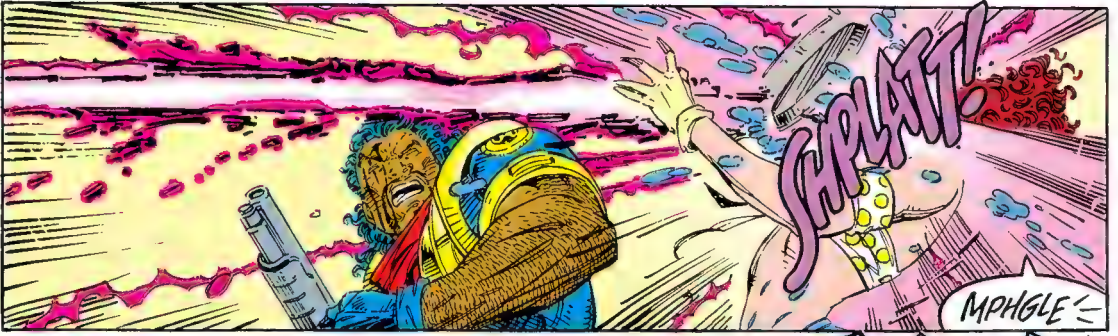
...IS CONSIDERABLE!

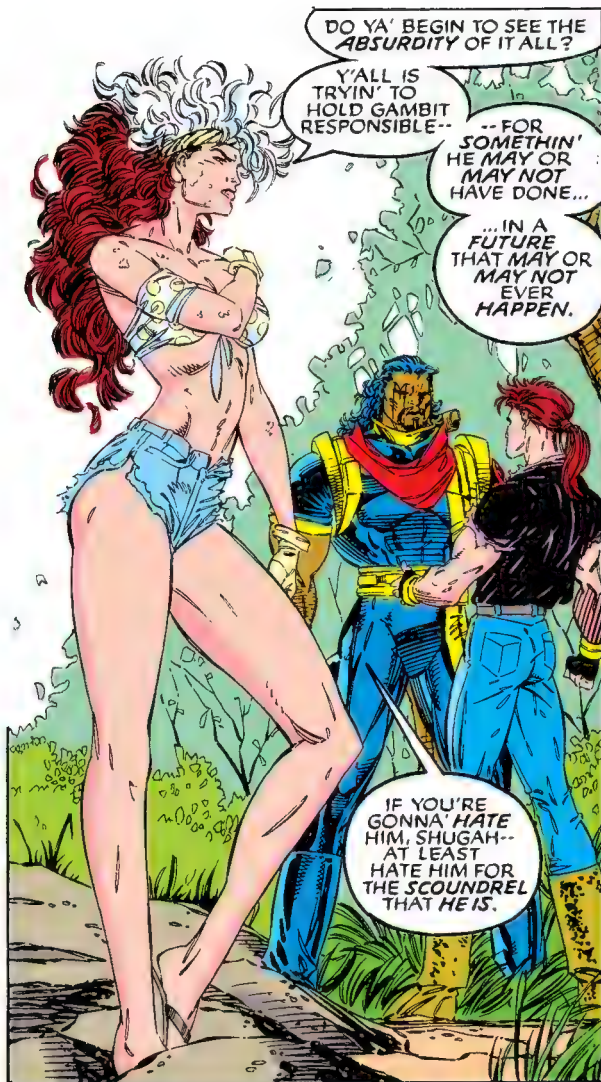


TELL ME YOU DIDN'T DO THAT ON PURPOSE?

ROGUE!







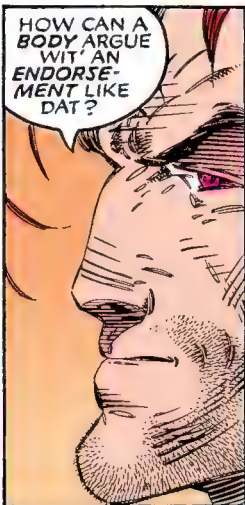
DO YA' BEGIN TO SEE THE **ABSURDITY** OF IT ALL?

Y'ALL IS TRYIN' TO HOLD GAMBIT RESPONSIBLE--

-- FOR SOMETHIN' HE MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE DONE...

...IN A FUTURE THAT MAY OR MAY NOT EVER HAPPEN.

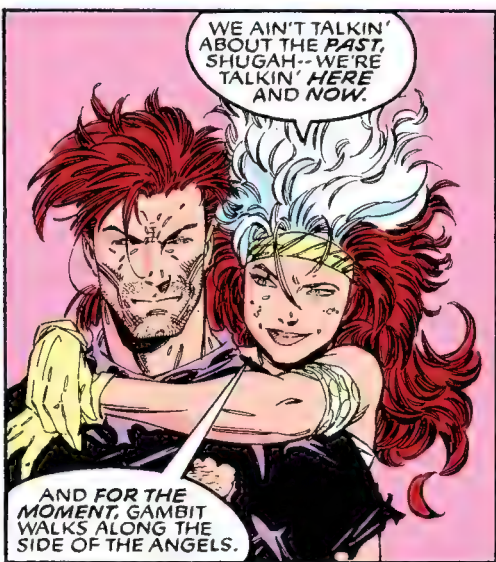
IF YOU'RE GONNA HATE HIM, SHUGAH-- AT LEAST HATE HIM FOR THE SCOUNDREL THAT HE IS.



HOW CAN A BODY ARGUE WIT' AN ENDORSEMENT LIKE DAT?

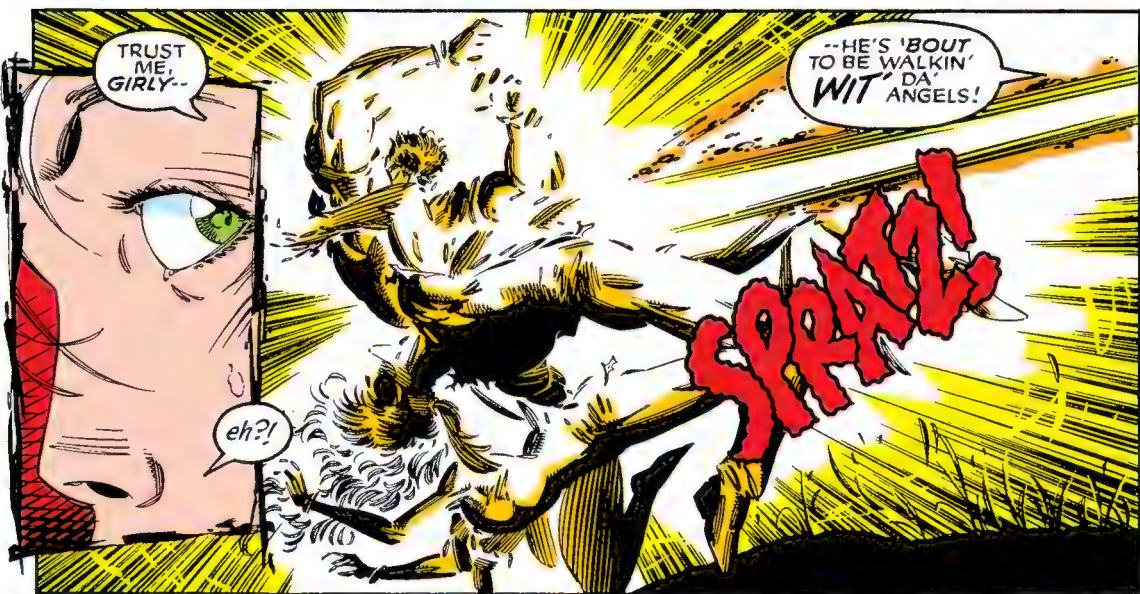


THERE IS SO MUCH OF THE PAST THAT REMAINS A MYSTERY.



WE AIN'T TALKIN' ABOUT THE PAST, SHUGAH-- WE'RE TALKIN' HERE AND NOW.

AND FOR THE MOMENT, GAMBIT WALKS ALONG THE SIDE OF THE ANGELS.

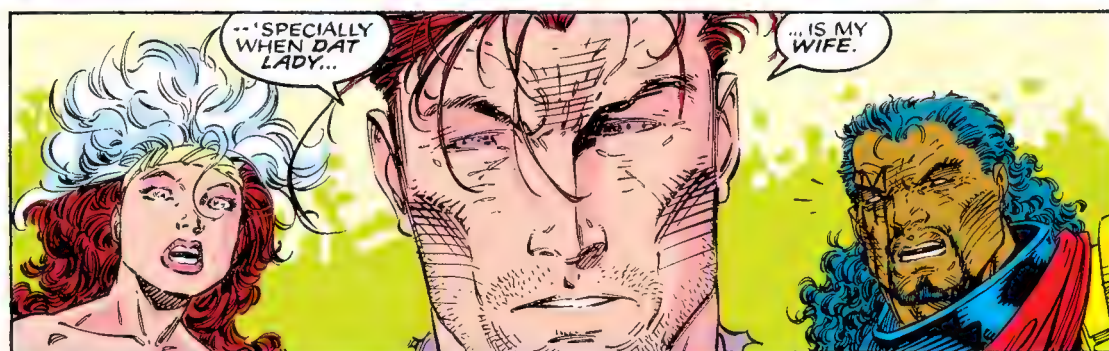
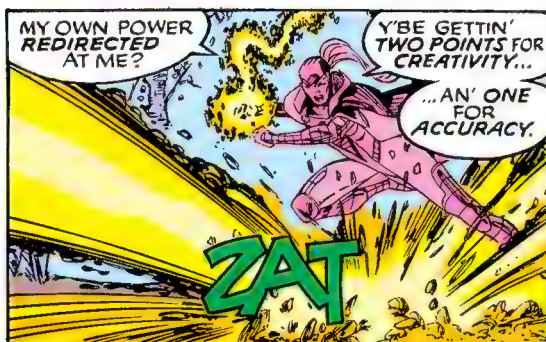
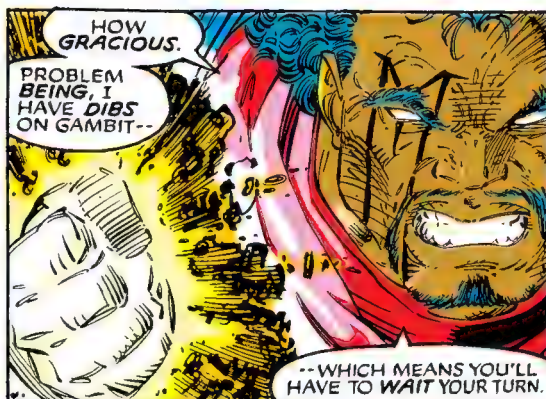
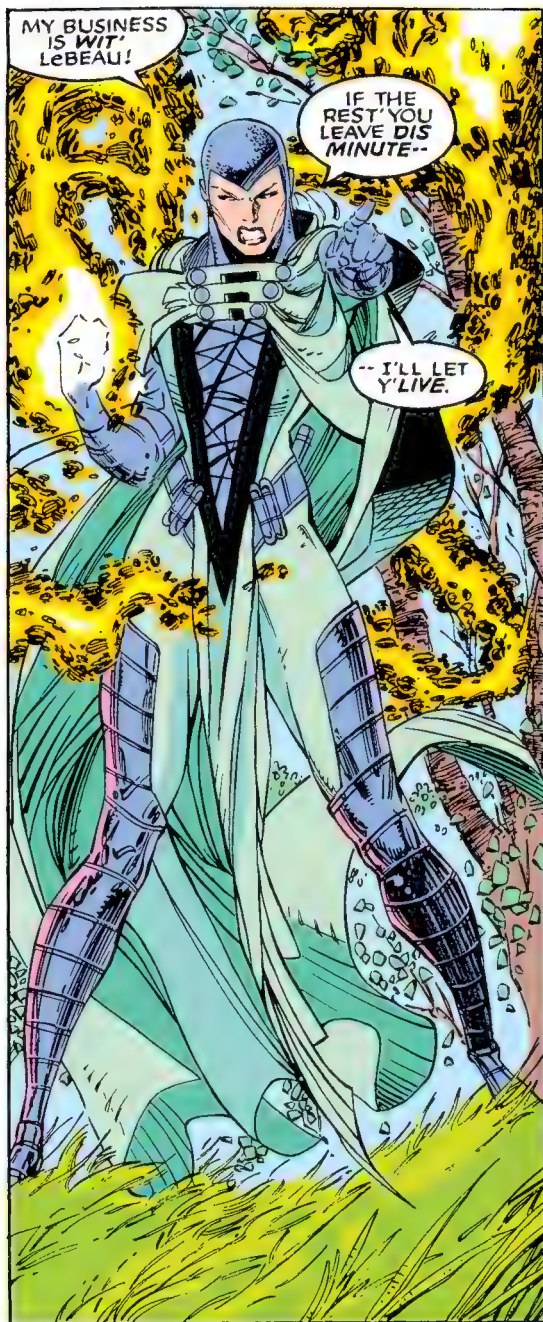


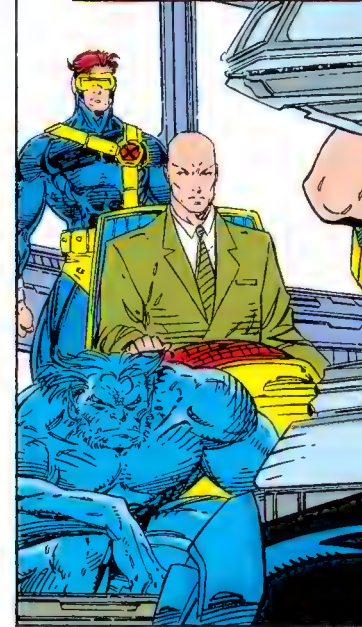
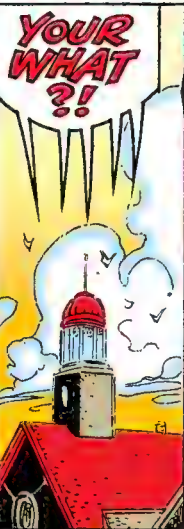
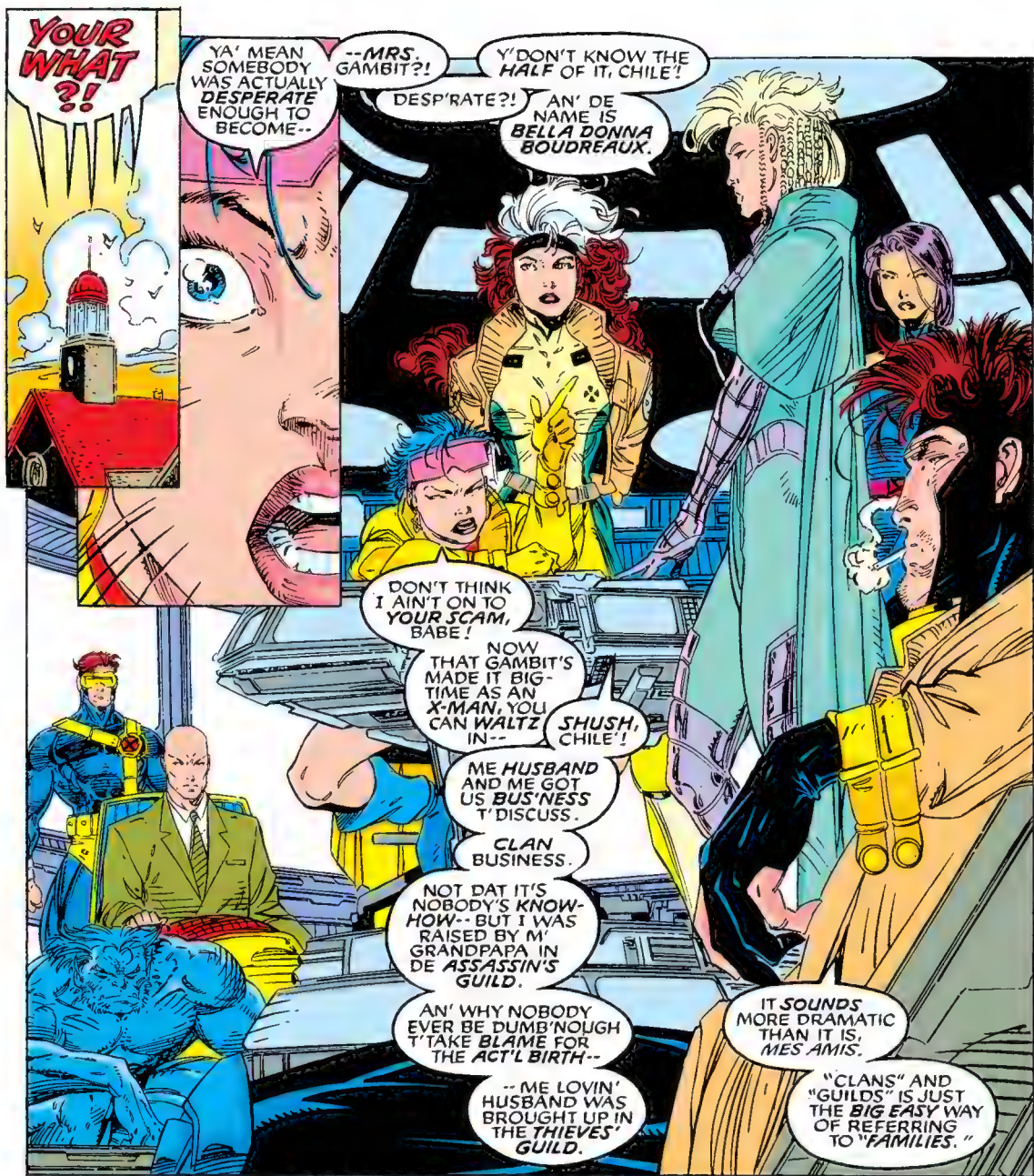
TRUST ME, GIRLY--

eh?!

--HE'S 'BOUT TO BE WALKIN' DA' ANGELS!

SPASH!





YOUR WHAT?!

YA' MEAN SOMEBODY WAS ACTUALLY DESPERATE ENOUGH TO BECOME--

--MRS. GAMBIT?!

Y'DON'T KNOW THE HALF OF IT, CHILE!

DESP'RATE?!

AN' DE NAME IS BELLA DONNA BOUDREAUX.

DON'T THINK I AIN'T ON TO YOUR SCAM, BABE!

NOW THAT GAMBIT'S MADE IT BIG-TIME AS AN X-MAN, YOU CAN WALTZ IN--

SHUSH, CHILE!

ME HUSBAND AND ME GOT US BUSINESS T' DISCUSS.

CLAN BUSINESS.

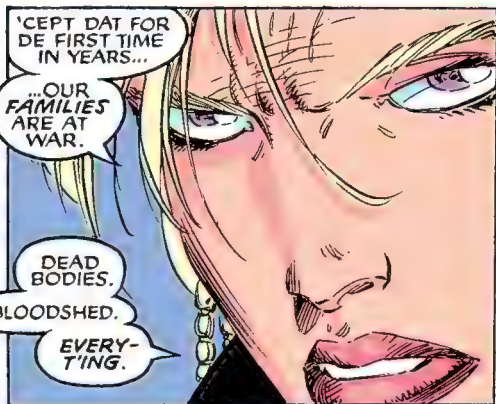
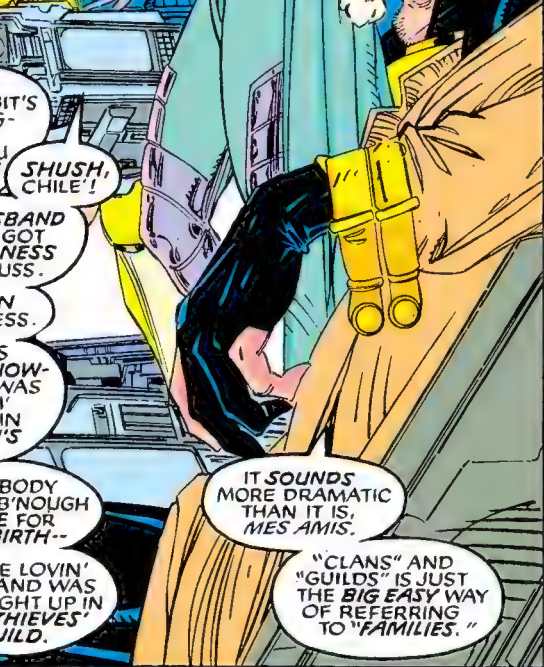
NOT DAT IT'S NOBODY'S KNOW-HOW-- BUT I WAS RAISED BY M' GRANDPAPA IN DE ASSASSIN'S GUILD.

AN' WHY NOBODY EVER BE DUMB'NOUGH T' TAKE BLAME FOR THE ACT'L BIRTH--

-- ME LOVIN' HUSBAND WAS BROUGHT UP IN THE THIEVES' GUILD.

IT SOUNDS MORE DRAMATIC THAN IT IS, MES AMIS.

"CLANS" AND "GUILDS" IS JUST THE BIG EASY WAY OF REFERRING TO "FAMILIES."



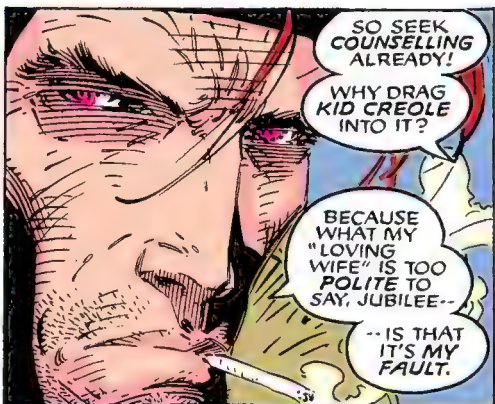
'CEPT DAT FOR DE FIRST TIME IN YEARS...

...OUR FAMILIES ARE AT WAR.

DEAD BODIES.

BLOODSHED.

EVERY-TING.

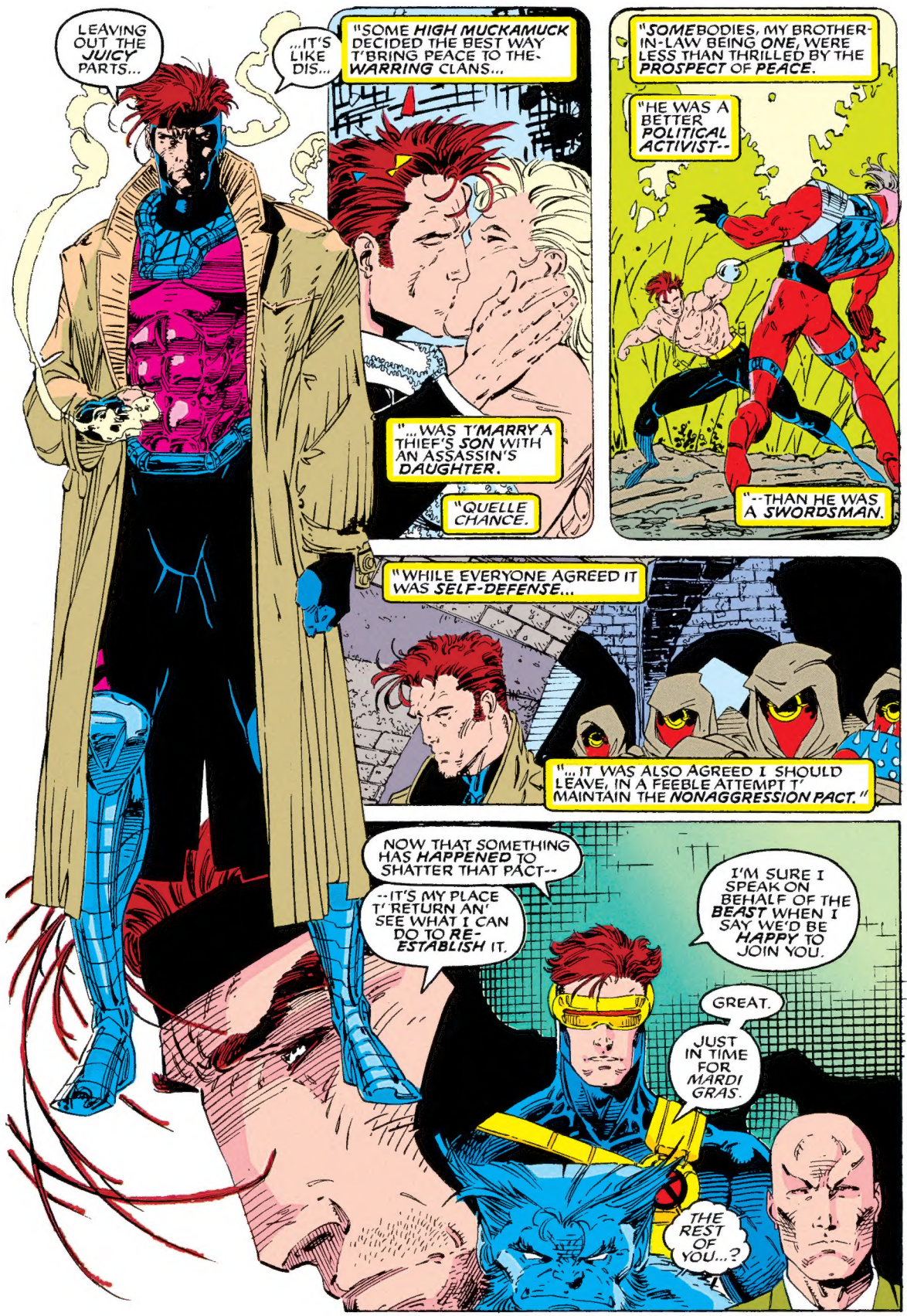


SO SEEK COUNSELLING ALREADY!

WHY DRAG KID CREOLE INTO IT?

BECAUSE WHAT MY "LOVING WIFE" IS TOO POLITE TO SAY, JUBILEE--

--IS THAT IT'S MY FAULT.



LEAVING OUT THE JUICY PARTS...

...IT'S LIKE DIS...

"SOME HIGH MUCKAMUCK DECIDED THE BEST WAY T'BRING PEACE TO THE WARRING CLANS..."

"SOMEBODIES, MY BROTHER-IN-LAW BEING ONE, WERE LESS THAN THRILLED BY THE PROSPECT OF PEACE."

"HE WAS A BETTER POLITICAL ACTIVIST--"

"... WAS T'MARRY A THIEF'S SON WITH AN ASSASSIN'S DAUGHTER."

"QUELLE CHANCE."

"--THAN HE WAS A SWORDSMAN."

"WHILE EVERYONE AGREED IT WAS SELF-DEFENSE..."

"... IT WAS ALSO AGREED I SHOULD LEAVE, IN A FEEBLE ATTEMPT T' MAINTAIN THE NONAGGRESSION PACT."

NOW THAT SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED TO SHATTER THAT PACT--

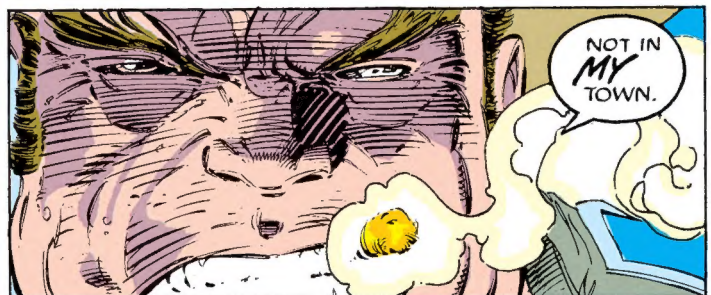
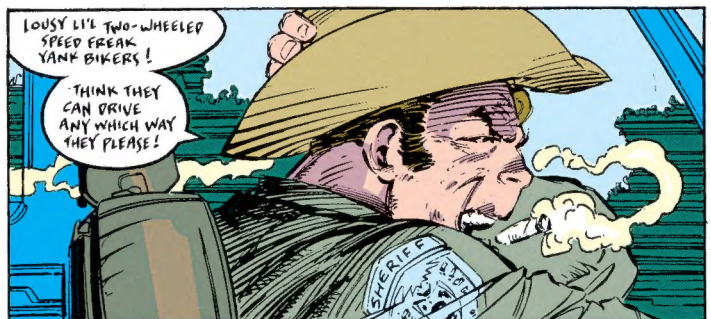
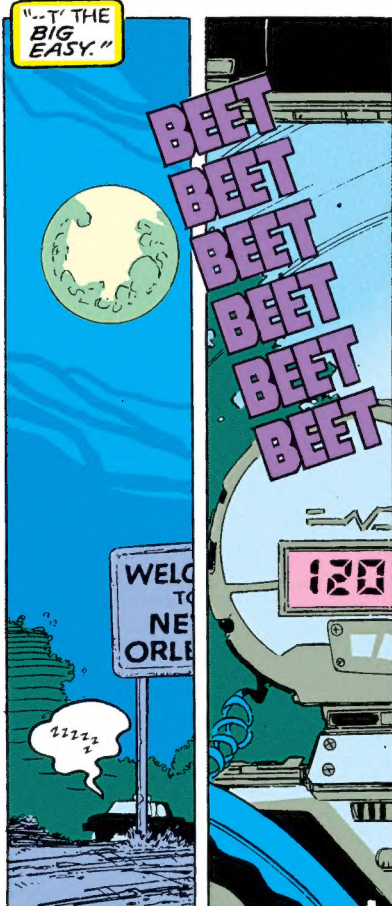
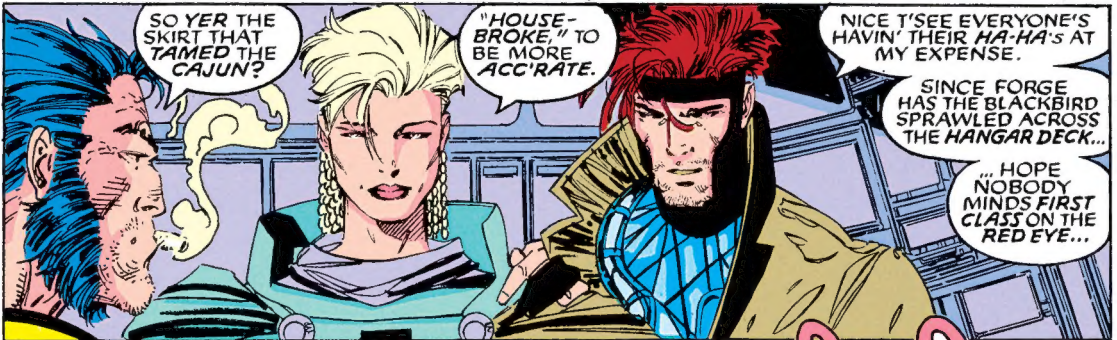
--IT'S MY PLACE T' RETURN AN' SEE WHAT I CAN DO TO RE-ESTABLISH IT.

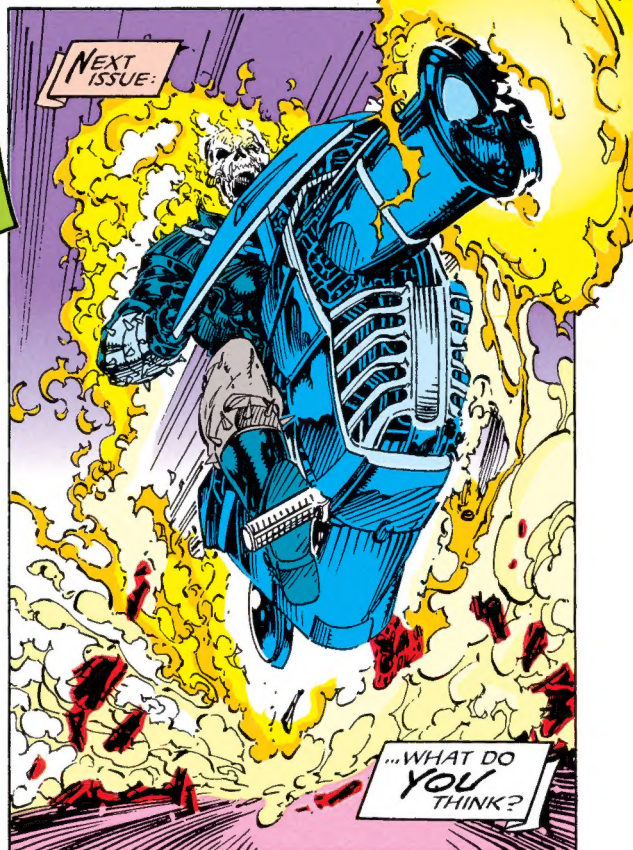
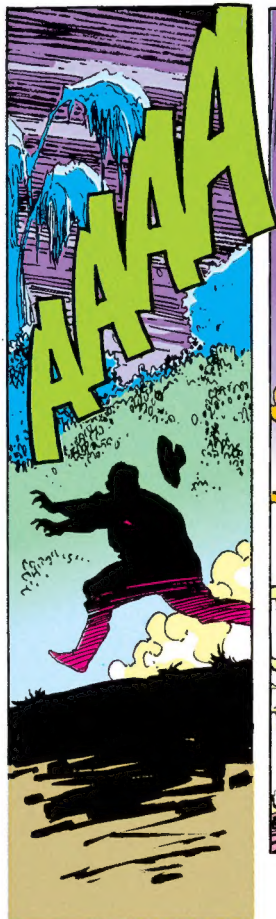
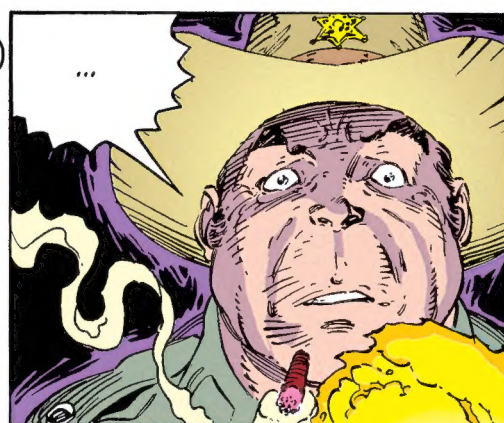
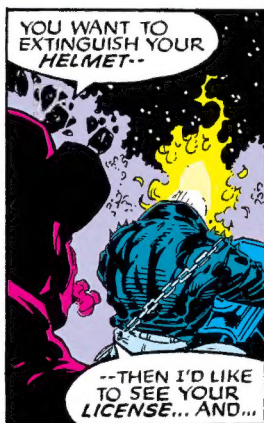
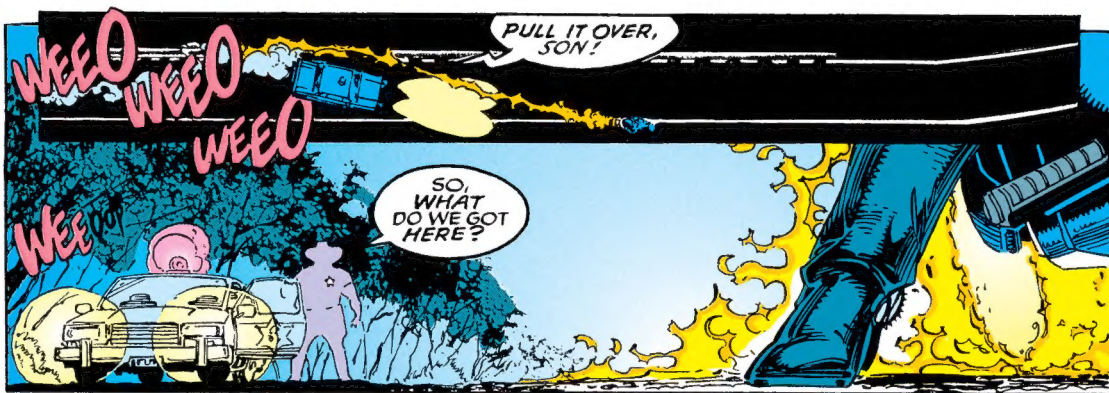
I'M SURE I SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE BEAST WHEN I SAY WE'D BE HAPPY TO JOIN YOU.

GREAT.

JUST IN TIME FOR MARDI GRAS.

THE REST OF YOU...?





TO BE CONTINUED IN **GHOST RIDER #26.**



MINUTEMEN

Bluntman